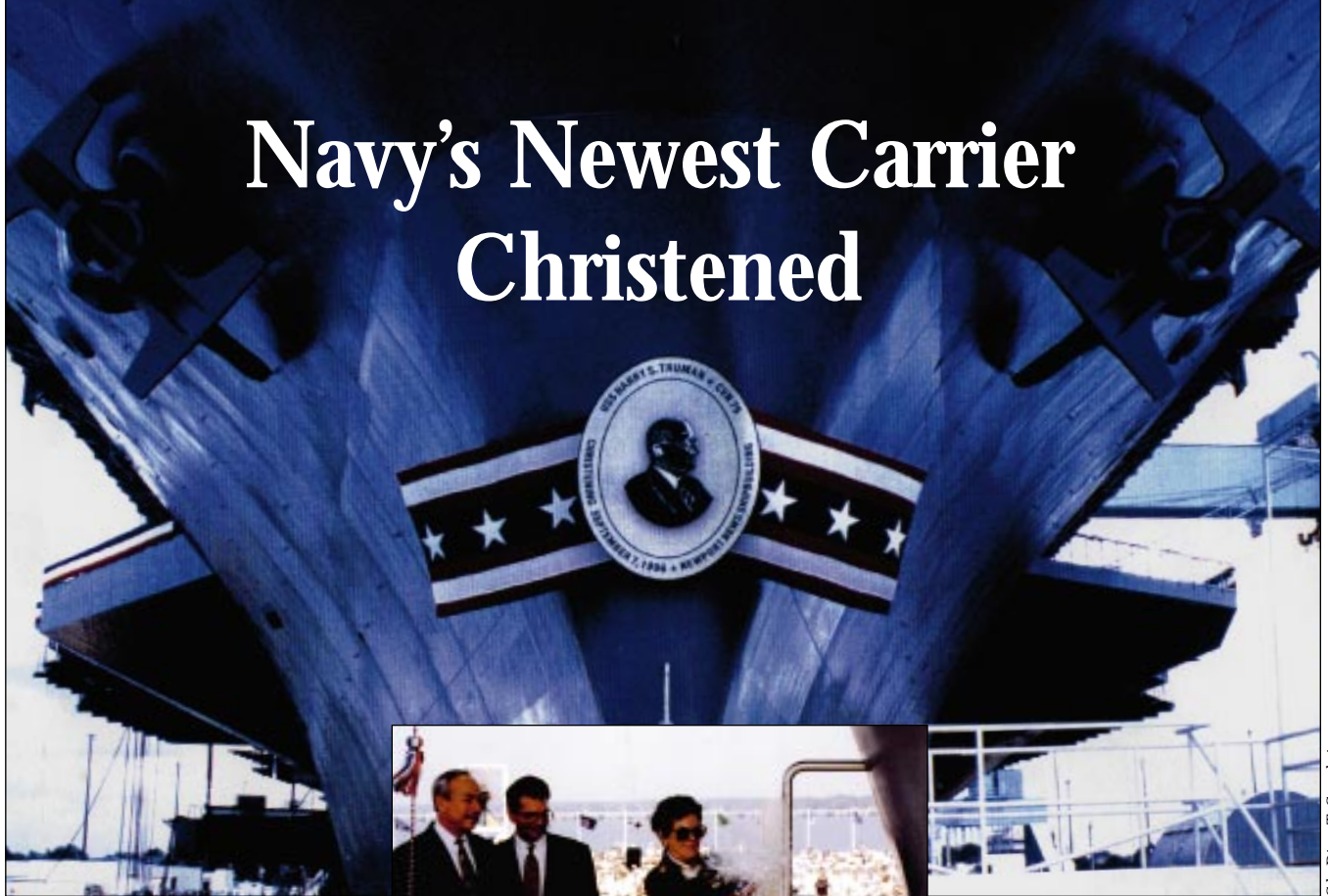


Navy's Newest Carrier Christened



Cdr. Diana T. Cangelosi

As the sound of a champagne bottle shattering rang through the air, the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75), was christened on 7 September at Newport News Shipbuilding, Newport News, Va. Named in honor of the 33rd President of the United States, *Truman* is the eighth of nine *Nimitz*-class carriers currently authorized by Congress.

President Truman's administration (1945–1953) began and ended during international conflict. He assumed the presidency in WW II and oversaw its conclusion. His leadership helped establish new policies to attain world peace by providing economic aid and assistance to devastated postwar European countries through the Marshall Plan; promising American support of free nations against direct and indirect communist aggression under the Truman Doctrine; and establishing the North Atlantic Treaty. Truman also led the nation through most of the Korean War.

The christening ceremony paid



PHCS Terry Cosgrove

Inset, Matron of Honor Drucie Snyder Horton smashes the traditional bottle of champagne across *Truman's* bow while Secretary of the Navy John Dalton and Newport News Shipbuilding President and CEO William P. Fricks look on.

tribute to the great man and his accomplishments. *Truman* was sponsored by Margaret Truman Daniel, daughter of the late President, and christened by Matron of Honor Drucie Snyder Horton, daughter of Truman's Secretary for the Treasury. Principal speaker Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton called *Truman* a "shining city . . . an American island in an uncertain and often unfriendly sea."

Capt. Thomas G. Otterbein is the carrier's prospective commanding officer who will lead a crew of more than 160 officers and

3,200 Sailors into that uncertain sea. The ship is 1,096 feet long, has a waterline beam of 134 feet, a flight deck width of 252 feet and displaces approximately 95,000 tons when fully loaded. Two nuclear reactors and four steam turbine engines will power the ship to speeds in excess of 30 knots. The ship is armed with four NATO Sea Sparrow missile launchers and four 20mm Phalanx close-in weapons systems mounts. An air

wing of approximately 2,500 personnel will support the 80 aircraft on board when deployed.

When *Harry S. Truman* joins the fleet in 1998, the ship will be the most modern and sophisticated aircraft carrier in the world. As the first President to approve the use of nuclear weapons, Harry Truman would surely be honored to have

such a powerful namesake—the embodiment of his often-stated assertion, "The buck stops here." ■



Capt. Thomas G. Otterbein, PCO of *Truman*